

The Ed Ju Kate Corner

July 2022
Issue 4

An exciting summer for ELAP! Our team is traveling around Southern Minnesota to attend local fairs and festivals spreading the word about education law & ELAP services! We'll be giving away merch, too! Find out where we'll be plus learn about a fun contest designed for **youth** to show off their **artistic skills**. We're also sharing a client story on the difference we make when our program gets involved.



Education Law Advocacy Project

Have you followed us on social media?



Blue Earth County Free Fair July 28-31

Washington County Fair August 3-7

MN State Fair August 24-September 5

**Follow us on social media
for live updates and
information on the fairs!**



Come find us!



Client Story

ELAP represented a student with disability on a proposed expulsion and was successful in preventing the expulsion. The student had a verbal encounter with another student in response to being called a racial slur. During the incident, a school staff placed the student in an improper hold that ended up injuring the student. This was partly caught on camera.

The school then held a manifestation determination review (MDR) with the parent and the school determined that the student's behaviors were not a manifestation of the student's disability. This means the school could move to expel the student. The parent disagreed with the conclusion of the MDR. She believed the school was treating her son differently because of his race.

When ELAP got involved, we reviewed the student's school records and information from the parent and concluded that the school violated the student's educational rights in many ways. The ELAP attorney used all available dispute resolution processes in enforcing the student's rights.

ELAP filed a due process hearing, stopped the school from going forward with the expulsion hearing, filed a special education complaint, and finally negotiated a successful resolution in favor of the student.

The school agreed to remove the MDR from the student's school records. ELAP also filed a maltreatment report for the improper hold, which is currently under investigation.

"My experience has been great. The staff has made us feel comfortable and cared for; they're informative. My son and I have learned a lot about the educational legal process. The respect we have [been] shown has been a breath of fresh air. I could not fight for my son's right to an appropriate education if it wasn't for this program. This program has been a blessing for my family and I'm truly grateful to have them a part of my village"

-parent from client story

Summer Learning- Art Contest

How is your child participating in summer learning? Show us with art! Follow us on social media and be on the lookout July 10 for our summer learning art contest. Submissions will have the chance to be featured in our August newsletter!

**Sign up
for free
lunch**

Free/Reduced meals will no longer be distributed to all students starting this coming school year. If you are eligible and in need of free/reduced meals for your student, visit your school's website and sign up using their application.